

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

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GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, IT

SUBJECT: KIRILENKO ADDRESSES ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY CONGRESS

REF: A. ROME 4020, B. MOSCOW 3655

1. SOVIET POLITBURO MEMBER KIRILENKO'S SPEECH AT THE ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY CONGRESS, CARRIED IN CENTRAL PRESS TODAY, FOLLOWED THE CONCILIATORY TONE OF BREZHNEV'S SPEECH IN BUDAPEST THE DAY BEFORE (REF B). IN PARTICULAR, KIRILENKO STRESSED THAT THE THREAT OF WAR IS RECEDING AND THAT DETENTE BENEFITS THE WORKERS OF ALL COUNTRIES, BOTH "SOCIALIST" AND CAPITALIST. THE IDEOLOGICAL STRUGGLE IS SHARPENING, SAID KIRILENKO, AND THE SUPPORTERS OF DETENTE MUST CONTINUE THEIR "PEACE OFFENSIVE" TO OVERCOME THOSE WHO SEEK TO "FREEZE" DETENTE. MOSCOW SEEKS TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LIQUIDATE THE THREAT OF WAR WHICH STILL EXISTS, SAID KIRILENKO,

AND IN THIS CONNECTION HE MENTIONED THE TASK OF FINDING A JUST SOLUTION TO THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM, MOSCOW'S EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT WHICH WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO PEACE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, AND ITS ATTEMPT TO PROMOTE PEACE IN THE INTERESTS OF "THE PEOPLE" OF SOUTHEAST ASIA. ON CSCE HE SAID THAT CONCLUSION AT THE SUMMIT LEVEL "IS COMING INTO VIEW" AND HE REFERRED TO THE LESSONS OF WARTIME COOPERATION AGAINST HITLER TO SUPPORT HIS PITCH IN FAVOR OF EFFORTS TO DEVELOP PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE WITH CAPITALIST STATES. KIRILENKO DID NOT ONCE MENTION THE U.S. BY NAME.

2. HE MADE THE STANDARD RECITATION OF THE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS FACING THE WEST AND THE CONTRASTING PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE EAST, ESPECIALLY THE SOVIET UNION.

3. ON PARTY RELATIONS, HE SPOKE OF THE MARXIST-LENINIST LESSON THAT EACH FRATERNAL PARTY MUST BUILD ON THE BASIS OF ITS OWN EXPERIENCE AND ENVIRONMENT, AND ENDORSED THE ITALIAN PARTY'S COOPERATION WITH OTHER LEFTIST FORCES IN ITALY. AT THE SAME TIME, HE SAID THAT IT IS "VERY IMPORTANT" THAT PRINCIPLES COMMON TO ALL NATIONS IN A REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLE BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION. HE LOOKED TOWARD A EUROPEAN PARTY CONFERENCE "THIS YEAR."

4. COMMENT: KIRILENKO BROKE NO NEW GROUND AND WAS NOTABLY LOW-KEY ON FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES. HIS REFERENCE TO A EUROPEAN PARTY CONFERENCE "THIS YEAR" IMPLIES THAT THE DATE HAS NOW SLIPPED PAST MID-YEAR.
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